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Riverine evidence for isotopic mass balance in the Earth's early sulfur cycle

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Supplementary Information for: “*Riverine evidence for isotopic mass balance in the Earth’s early sulfur cycle*”

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Supplementary Text

Figs. S1 to S3

Table S1 to S3

References

South Africa field site River and groundwater samples in South Africa were collected from the Neoproterozoic Campbellrand-Malmani platform (table S3). River water samples from this region are consistent with $\Delta^{33}S_{AC} \approx 0$ ‰ (fig. S1). Similarly, all but one of the groundwater samples also yield $\Delta^{33}S$ values within two standard deviation of zero. Like other $\Delta^{33}S$ anomalies reported in the literature (e.g., Li et al., 2016), our single groundwater sample with a $\Delta^{33}S$ anomaly (+1.8 ‰) is presumed to average a small volume of rock and thus is not representative of the bulk Archean crust. Consistent with this, river waters within the same region do not show $\Delta^{33}S$ anomalies (fig. S1). Since rainwater concentration data is unavailable for the South Africa field sites, it is not possible to more quantitatively constrain $\Delta^{33}S_{AC}$ using these samples.

Superior Craton $\delta^{34}S$ River water samples collected from the Superior Craton field site show $\delta^{34}S$ values that range from +2.7 to +11.4 ‰ (table S2). Broadly, this range is consistent with the ranges observed in local rainwaters (+2 to +9 ‰; Nriagu and Coker, 1978; Caron et al., 1986) and bedrock (-0.4 to +6 ‰; Bekker et al., 2009). However, a few samples exhibit $\delta^{34}S$ values higher than either the rain or bedrock end-members. As these high $\delta^{34}S$ samples are also enriched in Cl, the sulfur isotopic enrichment may reflect contributions from urban runoff with a high $\delta^{34}S$. Consistent with this, the predicted proportions of urban runoff derived S are positively correlated with the measured $\delta^{34}S$ values (fig. S3). While there is some scatter in this relationships, it may be due to variable proportions of crustal and rain-derived sulfur with distinct $\delta^{34}S$ values. Alternatively, some sulfate liberated by rock weathering may be exported from the catchment as a reduced phase (e.g. organic sulfur) as a result of modern S cycling, which could cause mass-dependent S isotopic fractionation. Such loss of sulfate would cause us to overestimate the fraction of sulfate sourced from atmospheric deposition and urban runoff using Equation 5. This overestimation along with any mass-dependent fractionation would not significantly bias our estimate of $\Delta^{33}S_{AC}$, but instead only add to its uncertainty.

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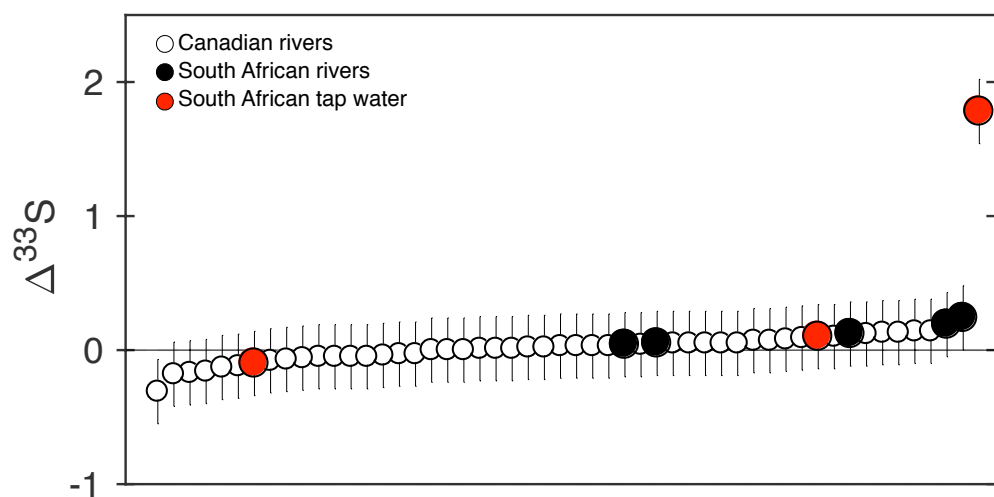


Figure S1: Sulfur isotopic ratios of Canadian and South African samples. A majority of dissolved sulfate sourced from the weathering of Archean rocks has a $\Delta^{33}S \approx 0$ ‰. While one groundwater sample from a carbonate aquifer has a higher value, we hypothesized that this sample averages over a small volume of rock and thus not representative of the bulk crust. Error bars represent one standard deviation of the analytical uncertainty.

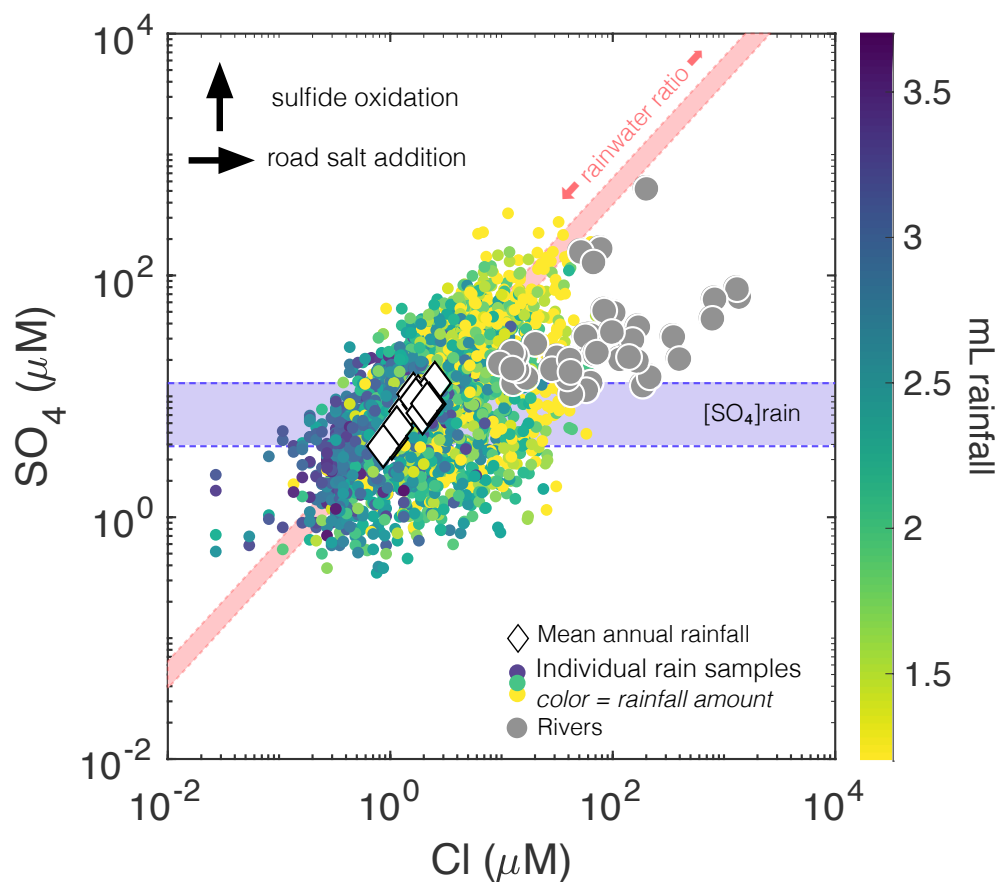


Figure S2: The chloride and sulfate concentrations of daily rainwater samples (colored points) compared with precipitation-weighted mean annual rainfall (diamonds) and river waters (gray circles) in the Great Lakes region of Canada. The daily rainfall samples are color-coded based on the volume of precipitation that fell during the collection day. We assumed that the sulfate concentration of mean annual rainfall represents the minimum concentration of river water and that excess sulfate in river water derives from rock weathering.

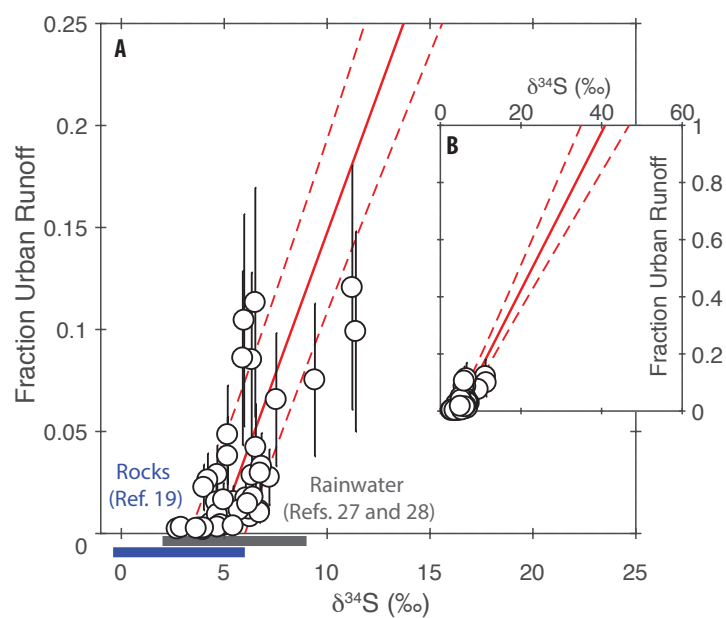


Figure S3: $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ of Canadian Rivers. (a) Measured $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ values of riverine sulfate and the inferred proportion of sulfate sourced from urban runoff (mean and one standard deviation). The red trend line refers to a linear regression using the mean proportions of urban runoff sourced sulfate. (b) Same as in (a) but showing the predicted $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ of urban runoff based on the liner regression. The dash lines show the 68% confidence interval.

Table S1: Sulfide Mineral $\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ Compilation

First Author	Year	Citation
Cates	2006	(Cates and Mojzsis, 2006)
Farquhar	2000,2007,2013	(Farquhar et al., 2000, 2007, 2013)
Fischer	2014	(Fischer et al., 2014)
Grosch	2013	(Grosch and McLoughlin, 2013)
Guo	2009	(Guo et al., 2009)
Guy	2012	(Guy et al., 2012)
Hu	2003	(Hu et al., 2003)
Izon	2015	(Izon et al., 2015)
Kamber	2007	(Kamber and Whitehouse, 2007)
Kaufman	2007	(Kaufman et al., 2007)
Kurzweil	2013	(Kurzweil et al., 2013)
Luo	2016	(Luo et al., 2016)
Mojzsis	2003	(Mojzsis et al., 2003)
Montinaro	2015	(Montinaro et al., 2015)
Ohmoto	2006	(Ohmoto et al., 2006)
Ono	2003,2006,2009a,2009b	(Ono et al., 2003, 2006, 2009a,b)
Papineau	2005,2008	(Papineau et al., 2005; Papineau and Mojzsis, 2006)
Partridge	2009	(Partridge et al., 2008)
Philippot	2012	(Philippot et al., 2012)
Roerdink	2013	(Roerdink et al., 2013)
Thomassot	2015	(Thomassot et al., 2015)
Thomazo	2009	(Thomazo et al., 2009)
Ueno	2008	(Ueno et al., 2008)
Whitehouse	2005,2008	(Whitehouse et al., 2005)
Zerkle	2012	(Zerkle et al., 2012)
Zhelezinskaia	2014	(Zhelezinskaia et al., 2014)

Table S2: Superior Craton Data

Name	Area (km ²)	Latitude	Longitude	Cl (μ M)	SO ₄ (μ M)	$\delta^{34}\text{S}$ (‰)	$\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ (‰)	% Archean
Kaministiquia River	7705.0	48.340	-89.333	358.7	30.3	7.5	-0.2	91
Lakehead	150.1	48.422	-89.265	1402.9	64.8	11.2	0.0	88
Madeline	43.2	48.451	-89.235	1339	75.5	11.4	0.0	89
Current River	603.0	48.469	-89.199	144.2	27.8	6.4	0.1	98
Mackenzie River	358.4	48.535	-88.941	64.9	22.5	5.5	0.1	86
Wolf River	603.2	48.822	-88.539	32.1	20.6	6.3	0.1	34
Black Sturgeon River	2709.4	48.905	-88.376	842.3	62.1	9.4	0.0	30
Helen Lake	25589.4	49.037	-88.250	406.8	19.9	6.5	0.0	57
Gorge Creek	39.6	49.302	-88.099	13	12.6	4.4	0.0	0
Blackwater River	484.6	49.609	-87.957	190.6	12	6.3	0.0	100
Longlac	1690.3	49.784	-86.539	64.7	12.7	7.2	-0.1	100
Skunk River	176.6	49.761	-84.484	65	31.4	6.7	-0.1	100
Mattawishkwia River	1034.3	49.686	-83.633	220.2	14.1	5.9	0.0	100
Missinaibi River	10363.6	49.615	-83.265	17.1	13.9	5.2	0.0	100
Opasatika River	1337.2	49.525	-82.841	59.1	11	4.7	0.0	100
Kapuskasing River	3372.8	49.391	-82.445	173.9	36.5	4.2	0.0	100
Poplar Rapids River	126.1	49.289	-81.784	43.3	10.2	4.0	-0.1	100
Mattagami River (1)	9041.5	49.275	-81.636	104.6	48	6.2	0.0	98
Hunta	598.0	49.058	-81.244	40	13.8	4.6	0.1	100
Fredrick House River	3300.6	49.059	-81.138	79.9	162.2	3.8	-0.1	97
Driftwood River	531.7	48.634	-80.682	158.9	20.7	6.5	0.1	100
Night Hawk Lake	2327.7	48.549	-80.975	52.9	153	4.0	-0.1	96
Mattagami River (2)	6335.1	48.476	-81.351	58.1	30.7	6.7	0.1	98
Opishing River	87.9	48.239	-81.848	29.1	16.4	5.3	-0.2	100
Groundhog River	3680.5	48.203	-82.173	69.9	21.8	6.1	-0.1	100
N. Chapleau Lake	139.9	47.845	-83.407	118.9	19.8	6.8	0.1	100
S. Chapleau Lake	296.1	47.842	-83.396	154	28.6	6.8	0.0	100
Chapleau Hotel	NaN	47.842	-83.398	205.6	508.4	2.7	0.1	NaN
Grazing River	123.1	47.855	-83.795	73.8	22.5	6.4	0.1	100
Jackpine River (1)	1659.4	47.945	-84.153	42	19.7	5.7	-0.1	100
Michipicoten River	4227.7	47.944	-84.529	20.6	26.6	5.0	-0.2	100
Magpie River	1958.6	47.986	-84.798	85.6	50.1	4.7	-0.3	100
Depew River	245.7	48.536	-85.172	169	19.2	5.2	0.0	100
White River	1027.2	48.588	-85.307	143.2	20.7	5.2	-0.1	100
Pic tributary	2168.7	48.688	-86.213	68.8	125.2	2.9	0.1	100
Pic River	3702.8	48.770	-86.297	13.2	19.8	4.7	0.1	100
Little Pic River	2076.8	48.801	-86.631	14.2	16.1	4.8	0.0	94
Steel River tributary	7.1	48.775	-86.882	806	42.8	6.0	0.0	100
Steel River	1175.3	48.777	-86.884	13.8	21.3	4.7	0.1	100
Pays Plat River	427.6	48.882	-87.560	12.7	22.5	4.0	0.1	99
Cypress River	117.7	48.934	-87.865	9.9	18.3	3.6	0.1	99
Jackpine River (2)	275.0	48.977	-87.998	12.8	16.6	5.4	0.1	99
Jackfish River	463.4	49.008	-88.078	42.7	15.6	6.1	0.0	85
Best Western Hotel	NaN	48.381	-89.299	100.5	33.3	5.0	-0.1	NaN

Table S3: Kaapvaal Craton Data

Name	Latitude	Longitude	$\delta^{34}\text{S}$ (‰)	$\Delta^{33}\text{S}$ (‰)
Maroela Guest House	-24.595	27.406	6.1	-0.1
Mfolozi River	-28.238	-31.176	6.8	0.0
Vryheid B&B	-27.769	30.792	9.2	0.1
Harts River (1)	-26.383	25.910	10.4	0.2
Rus 'n Bietjie	-28.163	23.558	7.1	1.8
Harts River (2)	-27.571	24.743	14.3	0.0
Elands River	-25.334	27.292	6.6	0.1
Crocodile River	-24.653	27.379	7.5	0.2